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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/955,653	09/12/2001	Robert A. Koch	60027.0042US01/BS01191	1170
39262	7590	11/15/2004	EXAMINER	
BELLSOUTH CORPORATION P.O. BOX 2903 MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402-0903			ALI, RASEL M	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2174	

DATE MAILED: 11/15/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/955,653	Applicant(s) KOCH, ROBERT A.	
	Examiner Rasel Ali	Art Unit 2174	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 September 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) ⁰ | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-6, 8-16, 18-20 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being patented by Nawaz (US. # 5,959,621).

As per independent claim 1, Nawaz teaches a method for providing a notification that an event has occurred, said method comprising:

receiving a request to provide a notification in response to the occurrence of said event to a client computer, said request comprising a description of said event and a user identifier (Nawaz, column 9, line 4-9 and column 10, line 12-14);

determining whether said event has occurred (Nawaz, column 10, line 38-42);
and

in response to determining that said event has occurred, identifying a network address for said client computer based on said user identifier, and transmitting a request to the client computer at said network address to display a visual indication that said event has occurred (Nawaz, column 10, line 38-42).

As per claim 2, which is dependent on claim 1, Nawaz teaches wherein said visual indication comprises a user interface window including a description of said event (Nawaz column 10, line 12-14).

As per claim 3, which is dependent on claim 2, Nawaz teaches wherein said user interface window is displayed over one or more currently active windows (Nawaz, column 10, line 59-61).

As per claim 4, which is a dependent on claim 3, Nawaz teaches wherein said user interface window further comprises one or more hyperlink referencing a network location having additional information regarding said event (Nawaz, column 9, line 20-24).

As per claim 5, which is dependent on claim 4, Nawaz teaches wherein said request to provide a notification further comprises data for customizing said visual indication, wherein transmitting a request to said client computer to display a visual indication that said event has occurred further comprises transmitting said data for customizing said visual indication, and wherein said user interface window further comprises said data for customizing said visual indication (Nawaz, column 10, line 38-42).

As per claim 6, which is dependent on claim 1, Nawaz teaches wherein identifying a network address for said client computer based on said user identifier comprises querying a network service provider or other network database for said network address of said client computer (Nawaz, column 9, line 12-19 and line 6-9).

As per claim 8, which is dependent on claim 1, Nawaz teaches wherein said request to provide a notification in response to the occurrence of said event is received at a business web server (Nawaz, column 11, line 28-38).

As per independent claim 9, Nawaz teaches a method for providing a notification that an event has occurred, said method comprising:

transmitting a request to provide a notification in response to the occurrence of said event to a server computer, said request comprising a description of said event and a user identifier (Nawaz, column 8, line 65 through column 9, line 9 and column 10, line 12-14);

receiving from said server computer a request to display a visual indication that said event has occurred, said visual indication comprising a user interface window including a description of said event (Nawaz, column 10, line 38-42); and

displaying said visual indication (Nawaz, column 10, line 38-40).

As per claim 10, which is dependent on claim 9, Nawaz teaches wherein said user interface window is displayed over one or more currently active windows (Nawaz, column 10, line 59-61).

As per claim 11, which is dependent on claim 10, Nawaz teaches wherein said user interface window further comprises one or more hyperlinks referencing a network location having additional information regarding said event (Nawaz, column 9, line 20-24).

As per claim 12, which is dependent on claim 11, Nawaz teaches wherein said request to provide a notification further comprises data for customizing said visual indication, wherein said request to display a visual indication that said event has occurred further comprises said data for customizing said visual indication, and wherein said comprises said data for customizing said visual indication (Nawaz, column 10, line 38-42).

As per claim 13, which is dependent on claim 1, Nawaz teaches a computer-readable medium comprising computer-readable instructions which, when executed by a computer, cause the computer to perform the method of Claim 1 (Nawaz, column 5, line 23-38 and line 46-48, column 6 line 28-42 and column 6 line 65 through column 7, line 1-7).

As per claim 14, which is dependent on claim 9, Nawaz teaches a computer-readable medium comprising computer-readable instructions which, when executed by a computer, cause the computer to perform the method of Claim 9 (Nawaz, column 5, line 23-38 and line 46-48, column 6 line 28-42 and column 6 line 65 through column 7, line 1-7).

As per claim 15, which is dependent on claim 1, Nawaz teaches a computer-controlled apparatus capable of performing the method of claim 1 (Nawaz, column 5, line 22-28).

As per claim 16, which is dependent on claim 9, Nawaz teaches a computer-controlled apparatus capable of performing the method of Claim 9 (Nawaz, column 5, line 22-28).

As per claim 18, which is dependent on claim 17, Nawaz teaches further comprising a web server computer, and wherein said visual indication that said event has occurred further comprises a hyperlink, and wherein said client computer is further operative to receive a selection of said hyperlink and, based on said selection, to retrieve and display additional information regarding said event from said web server computer (Nawaz, column 12, line 15-17 and column 9, line 20-24).

As per claim 19, which is dependent on claim 17, Nawaz teaches further comprising a billing server computer, and wherein said visual indication that said event has occurred further comprises a hyperlink, and wherein said client computer is further operative to receive a selection of said hyperlink and, based on said selection, to place an order with said billing server computer (Nawaz, column 9, line 14-24).

As per claim 20, which is dependent on claim 17, Nawaz teaches further comprising a calendaring server computer, and wherein said visual indication that said event has occurred further comprises a hyperlink, and wherein said client computer is further operative to receive a selection of said hyperlink and, based on said selection, to create an appointment with said calendaring server computer (Nawaz, column 9, line 15-24 and column 10, line 29-37; *Microsoft outlook supports calendar for scheduling events*).

As per claim 22, which is dependent on claim 17, Nawaz teaches wherein said visual indication that said event has occurred further comprises a hyperlink, and wherein said client computer is further operative to receive a selection of said hyperlink and, based on said selection, send a data message (Nawaz, column 9, line 21-25).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claim 7 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nawaz (US. # 5,959,621) in view Timm et al. (US. # 6,055,268).

With respect to claim 7, which is dependent on claim 1, Nawaz fails to teach wherein said request to display a visual indication that said event has occurred is transmitted to said client computer over a high-speed always-on network connection.

However, Timm teaches wherein said request to display a visual indication that said event has occurred is transmitted to said client computer over a high-speed always-on network connection (Timm, column 16, line 57-62).

It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to include Timm's high-speed always-on network connection with Nawaz's client computer for non-stop lightening fast connectivity.

With respect to claim 17, Nawaz teaches a system for providing a notification that an event has occurred, said system comprising:

a server computer comprising a memory, a central processing unit, and a storage device containing computer-readable instructions for execution on said central processing unit of said server computer, said computer-readable instructions operative to cause the server computer to receive said request to provide a notification from said client computer, to determine whether said event has occurred, to identify a network address for said client computer based on said user identifier in response to determining that said event has occurred, and to transmit said request to said client computer to display a visual indication that said event has occurred at said network address (Nawaz, column 5, line 22-51 and column 12, line 21-22).

a client computer comprising a display, a memory, a central processing unit, and a storage device containing computer-readable instructions for execution on said central processing unit, said computer-readable instructions operative to cause the client computer to transmit a request to provide a notification in response to the occurrence of said event to a server computer, said request comprising a description of said event and a user identifier, to receive from said server computer a request to display a visual indication that said event has occurred via a network connection said visual indication comprising a user interface window including a description of said event, and to display said visual indication on said display (Nawaz, column 5, line 22-51)

Nawaz fails to teach event has occurred via a network connection.

However, Timm teaches event has occurred via a network connection (Timm, column 16, line 57-62); and

It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to include Timm's high-speed always-on network connection with Nawaz's client computer for non-stop lightening fast connectivity.

5. Claim 21 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nawaz (US. # 5,959,621) in view of Buhler (US. # 6,104,704).

With respect to claim 21, which is dependent on claim 17, Nawaz fails to disclose wherein said visual indication that said event has occurred further comprises a hyperlink, and wherein said client computer is further operative to receive a selection of said hyperlink and, based on said selection, to place a telephone call.

However, Buhler teaches wherein said visual indication that said event has occurred further comprises a hyperlink, and wherein said client computer is further operative to receive a selection of said hyperlink and, based on said selection, to place a telephone call (Buhler, column 3, line 25-33).

It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to include Buhler's telephone call with Nawaz's client computer to establish active communication to gather additional information regarding any event.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon are considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Pepe et al. (US. # 5,742,668) teaches electronic messaging network

Shaw et al. (US. # 5,809,242) teaches electronic mail system for displaying advertisement at local computer received from remote system while the local computer is off-line the remote system.

Rossmann (US. # 5,809,415) teaches method and architecture for an interactive two-way data communication network.

Verkler et al, (US. # 5,858,517) teaches communication link for client-server having agent which sends plurality of requests independent of client and receives information from the server independent of the server.

Kirsch (US. # 5,963,915) teaches secure, convention and effective system and method of performing trans-internet purchase transactions.

Kekic et al. (US. # 5,999,179) teaches platform independent computer network management client.

Slotznick (US. # 6,011,537) teaches system for delivering and simultaneously displaying primary and secondary information, and for displaying only the secondary information during interstitial space.

Haverstock et al. (US. # 6,064,977) teaches Web server with integrated scheduling and calendaring).

Dutcher et al. (US. # 6,065,054) teaches managing a dynamically-created user account in a client following authentication from a non-native server domain.

McDonough et al. (US # 6,115,693) teaches quality center and method for a virtual sales and service center.

Inquiries

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Rasel Ali whose telephone number is 571-272-4059. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00- 4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kristine Kincaid can be reached on **571-272-4063**. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Rasel Ali

Patent Examiner

Application/Control Number: 09/955,653

Page 13

Art Unit: 2174

AU 2174

10/28/2004

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